



YOR920000742US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): L.D. Bergman et al.
Case: YOR920000742US1
Serial No.: 09/923,530
Filing Date: August 7, 2001
Group: 2162
Examiner: Baoquoc N. To

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Indexing Data in a
Database and for Retrieving Data From a Database
in Accordance With Queries Using Example Sets

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.131

We, the undersigned, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. We are the named inventors on the above-referenced U.S. patent application.
2. We conceived the invention that is the subject of the present application at least as early as October 30, 2000. On or about this date, an IBM disclosure document for an invention entitled "Indexing Method For Queries Using Multiple Positive and Negative Examples" was sent to the inventors' attorneys at the law firm of Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP, for preparation of a related patent application. The accompanying letter, dated October 30, 2000, from IBM in-house counsel David M. Shofi and the IBM disclosure document are attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
3. The IBM disclosure document was written by inventor Vittorio Castelli.
4. Subsequent to conception and on or about January 2, 2001, inventor Vittorio Castelli sent a draft patent application and relative figures for the invention that is the subject of the present

application to the inventors' attorneys at the law firm of Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP, to assist in the preparation of the related patent application. The accompanying letter, dated January 2, 2001, from inventor Vittorio Castelli, and the draft patent application are attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

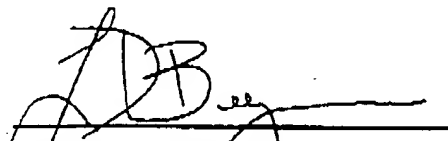
5. On or about July 23, 2001, inventor Vittorio Castelli received a draft patent application from inventors' attorneys at Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP. The fax transmission cover sheet is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

4. Due diligence was performed in the preparation and filing of a patent application from the date the letter and IBM disclosure document were received until the application was filed on August 7, 2001.

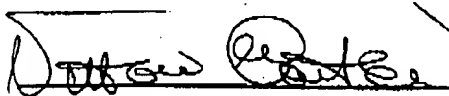
5. All statements made herein of our own knowledge are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

6. We understand that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001, and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: FEB 17, 2005


Lawrence D. Bergman

Date: Feb 17, 2005


Vittorio Castelli

Date: _____

Chung-Sheng Li